ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

President: I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Mr. T. Krishna Pillai to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, *viz.*,

> "the serious situation that has been created in South Travancore due to the sudden fall in the number of State Transport Buses plying in the Trivandrum-Nagercoil route."

This is not a matter of urgent public importance as has been demonstrated by a series of interpellations and their answers on the floor of the House a few moments ago. Therefore, I rule it out of order.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

The Travancore Rubber Control Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*): Sir, I move that the Travancore Rubber Control Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

Sir, I may be permitted to explain briefly the principles contained in this Bill. The existing Rubber Control Act II of 1112 was found inadequate from various points of view. The export and import of rubber is at present controlled by notifications published under Section 18 of the Sea Customs Act. Experience has shown that the provisions of the Sea Customs Act are inadequate to meet the special necessities arising from transactions relating to rubber. It is also found that the existing Act does not declare the right of every estate owner to have a quota in the general allotment of rubber quota. The defect has led to some litigation. Therefore, it was found that a specific provision like that which is contained in the Indian Rubber Control Act has to be made in our Act also. It was also found that in view of the international agreement regarding allotment of new-planting rights the provisions of the existing act require modification. The Indian Rubber Control Act was also amended for this purpose. At present the Committee's actions are being questioned in the Civil Court. Government have felt that it was necessary to free the Committee altogether from litigation in our courts. But at the same time Government have found it necessary to exercise some sort of control over the actions of the Committee. Therefore, provisions have been made to the effect that appeal shall lie to Government against certain orders passed by the Committee. These are the main objects of the Bill. The Bill was published sometime back and it was being subjected to close and searching scrutiny by the Select Committee of the other Chamber. The Controller of the Indian Rubber Licensing Committee was also invited to take part in the deliberations and with

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[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai.]

his help all these provisions were fully discussed, and slight alterations made. The Bill was passed by the Assembly without further amendments. It will be noticed by the honourable members that this is a Bill which is quite essential for the well-being of the rubber planting industry in the State.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: I second it.

President: The question before the House is that the Travancore Rubber Control Bill be considered.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was taken into consideration.

The question whether clauses 1 to 30 stand part of the Bill was put to the vote of the House and carried.

Accordingly clauses 1 to 30 were added to the Bill.

The question whether the Preamble and Title do stand part of the Bill was next put to the vote of the House and carried.

The Preamble and Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Rubber Control Bill be passed.

Dr. M K. Gopala Pillai: I second it.

The question whether the Bill be passed was next put to vote and carried.

The Bill was passed.

THE TRAVANCORE BANKERS' BOOKS EVIDENCE BILL.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

Sir, it is a small Bill consisting of only 7 sections. It corresponds to the British Indian Bankers' Books Evidence Act.

Honourable members might remember that there is no Evidence Act in force in the State. Still the rule of law is well laid down that secondary evidence of a debt is admissible only under certain circumstances. This necessitates the production of the original books of accounts kept by banks where such evidence is relevant. These are books which are maintained for the use and benefit of the publicand it is not in public interest that such books should be made to be kept in courts till the case is disposed of. This Bill enables filing of certified copies in cases where the original itself has to be filed at present. At the same time, power is rseerved with the court to call for the original.

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